

Amendments to the Specification

Please **amend** the specification as shown:

Please **delete** the paragraph on page 1 entitled "Related Applications" and **replace** it with the following paragraph.

Related Applications

This application is a national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application Number PCT/US98/24210, filed November 13, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/065,442, filed November 14, 1997, the [contents] disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

On page 1, after the paragraph entitled "Related Applications" please **insert** the following paragraph:

Incorporation of Sequence Listing

A paper copy of the Sequence Listing and a computer readable form (CRF) of the sequence listing on diskette, containing the file named 18528.016.SeqList.txt, which is 51,032 bytes in size (measured in MS-DOS), and which was recorded on September 22, 2004, are herein incorporated by reference.

Please **delete** the paragraphs beginning on top of page 5 following the paragraph ending in "and lowering plasma glucose levels," and ending at the bottom of page 6, and **replace** them with the following paragraphs:

According to the present invention, provided are compounds of the formula (I) [SEQ. ID. NO. 4]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀

Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉ Xaa₂₀

Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ Xaa₂₇ Xaa₂₈-Z₁;

wherein

Xaa₁ is His, Arg or Tyr;

Xaa₂ is Ser, Gly, Ala or Thr;

Xaa₃ is Ala, Asp or Glu;

Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;

Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;

Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;

Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;

Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu, Ile, Val, pentylglycine or Met;

Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;

Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;

Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;

Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met;

Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;

Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;

Xaa₂₁ is Ala or Leu;

Xaa₂₂ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val, Leu, pentylglycine, tert-butylglycine or Met;

Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;

Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;

Xaa₂₇ is Ala or Lys;

Xaa₂₈ is Ala or Asn;

Z₁ is-OH,

-NH₂

Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 75)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 76)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 77)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 78)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ or **(SEQ ID NO: 79)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; **(SEQ ID NO: 80)**

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently Pro, homoproline, 3Hyp, 4Hyp, thioproline, N-alkylglycine, N-alkylpentylglycine or N-alkylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, Xaa₂₆, Xaa₂₇ and Xaa₂₈ are Ala. Also within the scope of the present invention are pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutical compositions including said compounds and salts thereof.

Please **delete** the paragraphs beginning on the top of page 7 and ending at the bottom of page 10 prior to the paragraph beginning with "Preferred exendin agonist compounds of formula (II) include those wherein," and **replace** them with the following paragraphs:

Also within the scope of the present invention are narrower genera of compounds having peptides of various lengths, for example genera of compounds which do not include peptides having a length of 28, 29 or 30 amino acid residues, respectively. Additionally, the present invention includes narrower genera of compounds having particular amino acid sequences, for example, compounds of the formula (I-**A**) [SEQ. ID. NO. **[4]** **87**]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀
Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉
Xaa₂₀ Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ Xaa₂₇ Xaa₂₈-Z₁;

wherein:

Xaa₁ is His or Arg;
Xaa₂ is Gly or Ala;
Xaa₃ is Ala, Asp or Glu;
Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;
Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe or naphthylalanine;
Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;
Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;
Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;
Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine;
Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;
Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;
Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;
Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine;
Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;
Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;
Xaa₂₁ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₂ is Phe or naphthylalanine;
Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val or tert-butylglycine;
Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;
Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, or Phe;
Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₇ is Ala or Lys;

Xaa₂₈ is Ala or Asn;

Z₁ is -OH,

-NH₂,

Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly -Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 81)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 82)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 83)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 84)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ (SEQ ID NO: 85) or

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; (SEQ ID NO: 86)

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of Pro, homoproline, thioproline and N-methylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, Xaa₂₆, Xaa₂₇ and Xaa₂₈ are Ala; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Also provided are compounds of the formula (II) [SEQ. ID. NO. 66]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀

Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉ Xaa₂₀

Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ X₁ -Z₁;

wherein

Xaa₁ is His, Arg or Tyr or 4-imidazopropionyl;

Xaa₂ is Ser, Gly, Ala or Thr;

Xaa₃ is Ala, Asp or Glu;

Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;

Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;

Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;

Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;

Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu, Ile, Val, pentylglycine or Met;

Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;

Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;

Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;

Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met;

Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;

Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;

Xaa₂₁ is Ala, Leu or Lys-NH^e-R where R is Lys, Arg, C₁-C₁₀ straight chain or branched alkanoyl or cycloalkylalkanoyl;

Xaa₂₂ is Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val, Leu, pentylglycine, tert-butylglycine or Met;

Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;

Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;

X₁ is Lys Asn, Asn Lys, Lys-NH^e-R Asn, Asn Lys-NH^e-R, Lys-NH^e-R Ala, Ala Lys-NH^e-R where R is Lys, Arg, C₁-C₁₀ straight chain or branched alkanoyl or cycloalkylalkanoyl

Z₁ is -OH,

-NH₂,

Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 75)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 76)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 77)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, (SEQ ID NO: 78)

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ (SEQ ID NO: 79) or

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; (SEQ ID NO: 80)

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of Pro, homoproline, 3Hyp, 4Hyp, thioproline, N-alkylglycine, N-alkylpentylglycine and N-alkylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, and Xaa₂₆ are Ala. Also within the scope of the present invention are pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compound of formula (II) and pharmaceutical compositions including said compounds and salts thereof.

Please **delete** the paragraphs beginning at the top of page 15 following the heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION," and ending on the bottom of page 16 prior to the paragraph beginning with "Preferred N-alkyl groups for N-alkylglycine," and **replace** them with the following paragraphs:

According to the present invention, provided are compounds of the formula (I) [SEQ. ID. NO. 4]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀

Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉ Xaa₂₀

Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ Xaa₂₇ Xaa₂₈-Z₁;

wherein

Xaa₁ is His, Arg or Tyr;

Xaa₂ is Ser, Gly, Ala or Thr;

Xaa₃ is **Ala**, Asp or Glu;

Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;

Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;
Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;
Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;
Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu, Ile, Val, pentylglycine or Met;
Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;
Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;
Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;
Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met;
Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;
Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;
Xaa₂₁ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₂ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;
Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val, Leu, pentylglycine, tert-butylglycine or Met;
Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;
Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;
Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₇ is Ala or Lys;
Xaa₂₈ is Ala or Asn;
Z₁ is-OH,
-NH₂
Gly-Z₂,
Gly Gly-Z₂,
Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,
Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,
Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 75)**
Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 76)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 77)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 78)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ or **(SEQ ID NO: 79)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; **(SEQ ID NO: 80)**

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently Pro, homoproline, 3Hyp, 4Hyp, thioproline, N-alkylglycine, N-alkylpentylglycine or N-alkylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, Xaa₂₆, Xaa₂₇ and Xaa₂₈ are Ala. Also within the scope of the present invention are pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutical compositions including said compounds and salts thereof.

Please **delete** the paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18, and **replace** it with the following paragraph

According to an especially preferred aspect, especially preferred compounds include those of formula (I) wherein: Xaa₁ is His or Arg; Xaa₂ is Gly or Ala; Xaa₃ is Asp or Glu; Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr; Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe or naphthylalanine; Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser; Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr; Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu; Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine; Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser; Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys; Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln; Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine; Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu; Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu; Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu; Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val; Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg; Xaa₂₁ is Ala or Leu; Xaa₂₂ is Phe or naphthylalanine; Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val or tert-butylglycine; Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp; Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp or Phe; Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu; Xaa₂₇ is Ala or Lys; Xaa₂₈ is Ala or Asn; Z₁ is -OH, -NH₂, Gly-Z₂, Gly Gly-Z₂, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 81)**, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 82)**, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 83)**, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 84)**, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 85)**, Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 86)**; Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ being

independently Pro₁, homoproline, thioproline or N-methylalanine; and Z₂ being -OH or -NH₂; provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, Xaa₂₆, Xaa₂₇ and Xaa₂₈ are Ala. Especially preferred compounds include those having an amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID. NOS. 6-27 (Compounds 2-23)

Please **delete** the paragraphs beginning at the bottom of page 18 following the paragraph ending with “as well as during synthesis of the compound,” and ending on page 22 prior to the paragraph beginning with “Preferred exendin agonist compounds of formula (II) include those wherein,” and **replace** it with the following paragraphs:

Also within the scope of the present invention are narrower genera of compounds having peptides of various lengths, for example genera of compounds which do not include peptides having a length of 28, 29 or 30 amino acid residues, respectively. Additionally, the present invention includes narrower genera of compounds having particular amino acid sequences, for example, compounds of the formula (I-**A**) [SEQ. ID. NO. **[[4]] 87**]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀
Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉
Xaa₂₀ Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ Xaa₂₇ Xaa₂₈-Z₁;

wherein:

Xaa₁ is His or Arg;

Xaa₂ is Gly or Ala;

Xaa₃ is **Ala**, Asp or Glu;

Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;

Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;

Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;

Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;

Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine;

Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;
Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;
Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;
Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu or pentylglycine;
Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;
Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;
Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;
Xaa₂₁ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₂ is Phe or naphthylalanine;
Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val or tert-butylglycine;
Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;
Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, or Phe;
Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;
Xaa₂₇ is Ala or Lys;
Xaa₂₈ is Ala or Asn;

Z₁ is -OH,

-NH₂,

Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly -Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 81)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 82)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 83)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 84)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 85)** or

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; **(SEQ ID NO: 86)**

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of Pro, homoproline, thioproline and N-methylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, Xaa₂₆, Xaa₂₇ and Xaa₂₈ are Ala; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Also provided are compounds of the formula (II) [SEQ. ID. NO. 66]:

Xaa₁ Xaa₂ Xaa₃ Gly Xaa₅ Xaa₆ Xaa₇ Xaa₈ Xaa₉ Xaa₁₀

Xaa₁₁ Xaa₁₂ Xaa₁₃ Xaa₁₄ Xaa₁₅ Xaa₁₆ Xaa₁₇ Ala Xaa₁₉ Xaa₂₀

Xaa₂₁ Xaa₂₂ Xaa₂₃ Xaa₂₄ Xaa₂₅ Xaa₂₆ X₁ -Z₁;

wherein

Xaa₁ is His, Arg or Tyr or 4-imidazopropionyl;

Xaa₂ is Ser, Gly, Ala or Thr;

Xaa₃ is Ala, Asp or Glu;

Xaa₅ is Ala or Thr;

Xaa₆ is Ala, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₇ is Thr or Ser;

Xaa₈ is Ala, Ser or Thr;

Xaa₉ is Asp or Glu;

Xaa₁₀ is Ala, Leu, Ile, Val, pentylglycine or Met;

Xaa₁₁ is Ala or Ser;

Xaa₁₂ is Ala or Lys;

Xaa₁₃ is Ala or Gln;

Xaa₁₄ is Ala, Leu, Ile, pentylglycine, Val or Met;

Xaa₁₅ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₆ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₇ is Ala or Glu;

Xaa₁₉ is Ala or Val;

Xaa₂₀ is Ala or Arg;

Xaa₂₁ is Ala, Leu or Lys-NH^e-R where R is Lys, Arg, C₁-C₁₀ straight chain or branched alkanoyl or cycloalkylalkanoyl;

Xaa₂₂ is Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₃ is Ile, Val, Leu, pentylglycine, tert-butylglycine or Met;

Xaa₂₄ is Ala, Glu or Asp;

Xaa₂₅ is Ala, Trp, Phe, Tyr or naphthylalanine;

Xaa₂₆ is Ala or Leu;

X₁ is Lys Asn, Asn Lys, Lys-NH^e-R Asn, Asn Lys-NH^e-R, Lys-NH^e-R Ala, Ala Lys-NH^e-R where R is Lys, Arg, C₁-C₁₀ straight chain or branched alkanoyl or cycloalkylalkanoyl

Z₁ is -OH,

-NH₂,

Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser-Z₂,

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 75)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 76)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 77)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆-Z₂, **(SEQ ID NO: 78)**

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇-Z₂ **(SEQ ID NO: 79)** or

Gly Gly Xaa₃₁ Ser Ser Gly Ala Xaa₃₆ Xaa₃₇ Xaa₃₈-Z₂; **(SEQ ID NO: 80)**

Xaa₃₁, Xaa₃₆, Xaa₃₇ and Xaa₃₈ are independently selected from the group consisting of Pro, homoproline, 3Hyp, 4Hyp, thioproline, N-alkylglycine, N-alkylpentylglycine and N-alkylalanine; and

Z₂ is -OH or -NH₂;

provided that no more than three of Xaa₃, Xaa₅, Xaa₆, Xaa₈, Xaa₁₀, Xaa₁₁, Xaa₁₂, Xaa₁₃, Xaa₁₄, Xaa₁₅, Xaa₁₆, Xaa₁₇, Xaa₁₉, Xaa₂₀, Xaa₂₁, Xaa₂₄, Xaa₂₅, and Xaa₂₆ are Ala. Also within the scope of the present invention are pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compound of formula (II) and pharmaceutical compositions including said compounds and salts thereof.